

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all prior versions of the claims with the listing of claims that follows:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A bearing or drive assembly, comprising:
at least two elements that are adapted for movement relative to each other,
wherein:
the at least two elements are selected from the group consisting of
bearing elements and drive elements, and
at least one element of the at least two elements includes a carrier
material and a polyimide coating on the carrier material.
2. (currently amended) An assembly according to claim 1, wherein the polyimide
coating is very thin in comparison with ~~a dimension of~~ the carrier material.
3. (original) An assembly according to claim 1, wherein the at least one element further
includes a passivation coating that is on the carrier material at a position below the polyimide
coating.
4. (original) An assembly according to claim 3, wherein the at least one element further
includes a pressure-resistant coating that is on the passivation coating, and the pressure-resistant
coating is positioned:
below the polyimide coating, or
in the polyimide coating, or
below and in the polyimide coating.
5. (original) An assembly according to claim 1, wherein:
the assembly is a bearing, and
the at least one element is a ring or a rolling body of the bearing.

6. (original) An assembly according to claim 1, wherein the polyimide coating is a permanent lubricant.

7. (original) An assembly according to claim 2, wherein the at least one element further includes a passivation coating that is on the carrier material at a position below the polyimide coating.

8. (original) An assembly according to claim 7, wherein the at least one element further includes a pressure-resistant coating that is on the passivation coating, and the pressure-resistant coating is positioned:

below the polyimide coating, or
in the polyimide coating, or
below and in the polyimide coating.

9. (original) An assembly according to claim 2, wherein:
the assembly is a bearing, and
the at least one element is a ring or a rolling body of the bearing.

10. (original) An assembly according to claim 3, wherein:
the assembly is a bearing, and
the at least one element is a ring or a rolling body of the bearing.

11. (original) An assembly according to claim 4, wherein:
the assembly is a bearing, and
the at least one element is a ring or a rolling body of the bearing.

12. (currently amended) An assembly according to claim 1, wherein applying the polyimide coating comprises ~~A method of producing a bearing or drive assembly having at least two elements that are adapted for movement relative to each other, wherein the at least two elements are selected from the group consisting of bearing elements and drive elements, and at least one element of the at least two elements includes a carrier material, with the method~~

~~comprising:~~

~~—applying a polyimide coating on the carrier material, with the applying of the polyimide coating including~~ immersing the at least one element into a prepolymer solution.

13. (currently amended) ~~A method~~ An assembly according to claim 12, wherein:
the immersing of the at least one element into the prepolymer solution is carried out so that the at least one element is coated with a polyimide film, and
the applying of the polyimide coating further includes transforming the polyimide film into the polyimide coating, and the transforming of the polyimide film into the polyimide coating includes tempering the at least one element.

14. (currently amended) ~~A method~~ An assembly according to claim 12, ~~further comprising adding an additive to~~ wherein the prepolymer solution includes an additive for improving frictional properties of the polyimide coating.

15. (currently amended) ~~A method~~ An assembly according to claim 14, wherein the additive includes a lubricant.

16. (currently amended) ~~A method~~ An assembly according to claim 13, ~~further comprising adding an additive to~~ wherein the prepolymer solution includes an additive for improving frictional properties of the polyimide coating.

17. (currently amended) ~~A method~~ An assembly according to claim 12, further comprising ~~applying~~ a passivation coating on the carrier material at a position below the polyimide coating.

18. (currently amended) ~~A method~~ An assembly according to claim 17, further comprising ~~applying~~ a pressure-resistant coating on the passivation coating, wherein ~~so that the~~ pressure-resistant coating is positioned:

below the polyimide coating, or
in the polyimide coating, or

below and in the polyimide coating.

19. (currently amended) ~~A method~~ An assembly according to claim 12, wherein:
the assembly is a bearing, and
the at least one element is a ring or a rolling body of the bearing.

20. (currently amended) ~~A method~~ An assembly according to claim 19, ~~further comprising operating the bearing, with the operating of the bearing being characterized by~~
wherein the polyimide coating is operative for functioning as a permanent lubricant.

21. (new) An assembly according to claim 1, wherein:
applying the polyimide coating comprises forming a film from a prepolymer solution on
the at least one element, followed by a polymerization;
the polyimide coating is very thin in comparison with the carrier material; and
the polyimide coating has a thickness of less than 30 μm .

22. (new) An assembly according to claim 21, wherein the prepolymer solution
comprises a prepolymer solution of a dianhydride and a diamine.